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THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 9 August 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a statement made on 9 August 1995 by His Excellency Mr. Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan, concerning the course of events in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On instructions from my Government, I request you to have the text of this statement distributed as a document of the General Assembly under item 28 of the provisional agenda for the fiftieth session, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Mohamed Osman YASSIN
Permanent Representative of the
Sudan to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Statement made on the morning of 9 August 1995 by His Excellency Mr. Ali Osman Mohamed Taha, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan, concerning the course of events in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Government of the Sudan has recently had contacts at many levels with some members of the European Contact Group dealing with the question of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and also with some who are not members of that group.

I find it important on this occasion to set forth the position of the Sudan with regard to what is taking place in Bosnia, which may be summarized as follows:

1. What is now occurring in Bosnia is a tragedy that jolts the conscience of mankind and demonstrates the inability of the international community to play an effective role in averting the consequences of that tragedy.

2. The Sudan welcomes the efforts of the European Contact Group and of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Contact Group on the question of Bosnia. In that connection, the Sudan welcomes the outcome of the meeting of the European Contact Group held in London on 21 July 1995.

3. The Sudan has no objection to the continued presence of the United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia for humanitarian purposes. At the same time, however, it calls upon the United Nations and the international community to play a more effective role in putting an end to the tragedy and the inhumane suffering to which the people of Bosnia are now being subjected.

4. The Sudan regards the embargo on the supply of arms to the Bosnians - accompanied by a constant flow of weapons to the Serbs - as an obvious imbalance and a glaring injustice. The correction of this shortcoming would, in the view of the Sudan, constitute the measure and true test of the credibility of the United Nations and of the international community in efforts to save the people of Bosnia from the atrocities to which they are being subjected at the hands of the aggressive Serbian forces.

5. The Sudan welcomes the initiatives and the appeals put forward recently by the Governments and Parliaments of a number of States calling for a lifting of the embargo on the supply of arms to the Government of Bosnia.

6. The Sudan takes this opportunity to commend the leading role played by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates in supporting and assisting the people of Bosnia. It considers this a brave and wise course which should be followed by every State that cherishes justice and peace in the world.